

with 10, 25, 8, 4 & 2 pegs respectively; subgenital plate (Fig. 7) extending a little beyond the middle of abdomen, posterior margin of subgenital plate rounded with an inverted U shaped notch in the middle, anterior margin deeply concave in the middle; first valvifer (Fig. 8) semicircular with articular knobs prominent, second valvifer long (Fig. 8), third valvulae (Fig. 8) lanceolate, outer plates of ovipositor (Fig. 8) narrow at base gradually expanding at apex with a ridge along outer margin.

Male: 1.9-2.2 mm. antennae yellow with some infuscation on flagellum, pedicel (Fig. 9)

DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY,
G. B. PANT UNIVERSITY OF
AGRICULTURE & TECHNOLOGY,
PANTNAGAR-263 145,
DISTT. NAINITAL (U.P.), INDIA,
May 31, 1982.

almost three times as long as wide, club unsegmented, shorter than preceding three funicle segments; apex of tibiae (Fig. 10) and tarsal segments 1-3 with 2, 2, 2 and 1 peg respectively.

Distribution: South and Central Africa, Asia, Burma, Rangoon; India, U.P., Pantnagar (New record).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am thankful to Prof. K. C. Sharma, Dean, College of Agriculture, Prof. B. P. Khare, Head, Department of Entomology, for all the necessary facilities.

M. A. KHAN

REFERENCE

FERRIERE, CH. (1935): Notes on some bred exotic Eupelmidae (Hym., Chalc.). *Stylops* 4: 145-153.

18. *NESIDIOCORIS CAESAR* (BALLARD) (HETEROPTERA — MIRIDAE): A NEW PEST OF BOTTLE GOURD AND TOBACCO PLANTS

Nesidiocoris caesar (Ballard) is a sap sucking bug first reported by E. Ballard (1927) from Godavari District in South India on tobacco. It was described as a new species named *Cyrtopeltis (Gallobelicus) caesar*.

During the survey of the fields growing bottle gourd in Western U.P., from 1977-1981, it was found that the entire crop was infested by this bug and consequently leaves had become yellow, mottled and fruit setting was minimum and the crop was abandoned. No

information was then available on the species but later it was identified by the Commonwealth Institute of Entomology, London.

The species infests Virginia variety of tobacco plants during winter, though the damaged mottled leaves remain commercially viable as they are utilized for processing as tobacco.

I thank Dr. G. D. Garg and Dr. S. C. Dhiman for assistance.

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY,
M. S. COLLEGE,
SAHARANPUR 247 001,
May 11, 1982.

V. C. CHATTERJEE

REFERENCE

BALLARD, E. (1927): Some new Indian Miridae (Capsidae). *Mem. Dept. Agric. Ind. Ent., Pusa*, 10: 61-68.

19. A NOCTUID DEFOLIATOR PEST, *DICHROMIA OROSIA* CRAMER (NOCTUIDAE: LEPIDOPTERA) OF ANTAMUL, A MEDICINAL PLANT

Antamul, *Tylophora asthmatica* (Asclepiadaceae) a medicinal plant whose leaves and roots are used as emetic, expectorant, diaphoretic, alterative, blood purifier and stimulant and is the best indigenous substitute for ipecacuanha (Dastur 1977). The leaves and roots contain the alkalid tylophorine which is similar in action to ipecacuanha.

During the second week of December, 1981 Antamul, grown at the Regional Research Station, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad Campus, Karnataka was found heavily infested by this pest. The caterpillars damaged the leaves eating them from the margin.

The females laid eggs singly on the undersurface of the leaves. The eggs were smooth,

green in colour and dorsoventrally flat. On hatching, the grubs restricted themselves to the undersurface of the leaf and defoliated. The larvae orange, the head and somites provided with series of small black tubercles. The full grown grub pupated in silken cocoons in soil below the plant or in leaf folds.

The head and thorax of newly emerged adult moths were clothed with grey black mottled scales, abdomen orange, forewing grey. A large sub-triangular black patch with pale edges occupying the medial area but not reaching the inner margin hind wings orange, the apical area black, undersurface of the forewing fuscous. This is the first record of the pest on the medicinal plant.

DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY,
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE,
DHARWAD-580 005,
May, 31, 1982.

M. C. DEVAIAH
R. RAJSHEKHAR GOUDA
Y. K. KOTIKAL
SUHAS YELSHETTY

REFERENCE

DASTUR, J. F. (1977): Medicinal plants of India and Pakistan. D. B. Taraporevala Sons and Co. p. 212.